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(54) Title: METHOD FOR THE DETECTION OF CYTOSINE METHYLATION PATTERNS WITH HIGH SENSITIVITY

(57) Abstract: The present invention concerns a method for the detection of cytosine methylation in DNA samples, in which the following steps are conducted: a genomic DNA sample which comprises target DNA and background DNA is chemically treated such that all unmethylated cytosine bases are converted to uracil, while the 5-methylcytosine bases remain unchanged; the chemically treated DNA sample is amplified with the use of at least 2 primer oligonucleotides as well as a polymerase and a nucleotide mixture, the composition of which leads to a preference for the target DNA over the background DNA as the template; and the methylation state in the target DNA is concluded from the presence of an amplificate or its quantity.